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Selwyn House School

**GRADE VIII/IX DRAMA**

**PRESENTS**

**THE BROTHERS  
MENAECHMUS**

**BY PLAUTUS**



**MARCH 12, 1985.**

## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Titus Maccius Plautus (254-184 B.C.), in contrast to many Roman playwrights, was a dramatist who wrote for his public. His plays were full of broad humour and his audiences loved them.

In The Brothers Menaechmus, we are given a comedy which revolves around a set of long lost twin brothers. Menaechmus of Epidamnus, a rather foolish man, quarrels with his harridan of a wife. Seeking revenge, he sets up a dinner engagement with his mistress and his parasite and takes himself off to the Forum. Enter his long lost brother who is immediately mistaken for Menaechmus of Epidamnus. A series of comic encounters takes place involving the mistress, the parasite and a gown purloined by the grasping Menaechmus of Syracuse. Just when all involved have become convinced that Menaechmus of Epidamnus is a madman, the reunion occurs.

The plot is not unique to The Brothers Menaechmus. Many early Greek plays were based upon a similar theme, and Shakespeare's Commedy of Errors is partially based on The Brothers Menaechmus. In this play, however, it is not the plot but rather Plautus' characterizations which keep the audience entertained. It is our aim to bring them to life.

Carol E. Manning

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C A S T  
(in order of appearance)

Blind Man	Inderbir Riar
Vendors	Salem Bouhairie
	Kenneth Hung
Erotium	Robert Briscoe
Erotium's Servant	Michael Phillips
Wife	Christopher Hodkinson
Decio	Scott Rennie
Gamblers	John Mulder
	Sean Spector
Roman Guard	Andrew Carswell
Father	Michael Bruneau
Pickpocket	Michael Sandford
Doctor	Jared MacSween
Sponge	Ray Fritz-Nemeth
Menaechmus of Epidamnus	Jason Price
Cylindrus	Michael Verchere
Menaechmus of Syracuse	Michael Riley
Messenio	Christian Campeau

Produced and Directed by: Carol E. Manning

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Set and Lighting

Andrew Carswell	Kai McCall
Chris Clark	Michael Riley
Steven Horrobin	David Verchere
Alex Kuilman	James Von Moltke
Prasun Lala	Peter Zukow

Sound

Warren Reid  
Carl Brabander

Program

Laura Shanahan  
Pauline Tierney

Make-Up

Kathy Funamoto	Hélène Bourduas
Margaret Lynn	Dorothy Walling

SPECIAL THANKS TO -

Marc Krushelnyski without whose help the  
set and lighting would not exist -

Nina Parsons for providing sustenance for  
hungry workers -

Patrick Neilson and the McGill Drama Department  
for loan of costumes and props -

All Staff members who graciously assisted  
in many ways after having been cajoled,  
attacked and harassed by a manic director.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



